(b) aad (c) For increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains, crop oriented production programmes viz. Integrated Cereals Development Programme —Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals; and National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) are being implemented. Besides, programmes for increasing the use of fertiliser in low consumption areas and extension of irrigation facilities are being implemented to improve the production of crops.
The Schemes focus on augmenting the availability of critical inputs through subsidised distribution of certified seeds, herbicides, plant protection chemicals, improved farm implements etc. Besides, rield demonstrations ar.d farmers training prosrammes are organised to assist the fanners and improve their skills for adoption of rainfed production technology in respect of maize and millets as well as promoting effective control of weeds through use of herbicides.

Suggestions by CTRI

1692. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister" of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) has suggested that farmen use move potash fertilizer in tobacco cultivation to reduce tar content of tobacco;

(b) whether CTRI has conducted any experimental programmes to test this finding; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTCR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The Central Tobacco, Research Institute (CTRI) has suggested to *the,* farmers to apply only the recommended dooses of potassic fertilizer-s as given below;

Northern light soils of Andhra Pradesh 80-120 kg/ha defending upon the availability of potash in soil; Southern light soils of Andhra Pradesh—60 kgha; southern black soils of Andhra pradesh-50 kg/ha and light soils of Karnataka-80 kg|ha.

(b) Yes, Sir,

(c) Recommended doses have give) significant reduction of total particulat matter such as smoke nicotine and carbot monoxide by exogenous application to increase leaf potash (K) content to 3.5 to 4.0 per cent. The higher dose has no' indicated significant increase in yield. Tht CTRI has a continuing progamme for safer tobacco to reduce tar content.

CM-12 Variety of Tobacco

1693. SHRI YERRA -NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Tabocco Research Jnrtitute (CTRI) has evolved a new variety of tobacco called CM-12 for Northern light soils in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether CM12, can be grown in areas of East and West Godaveri districts in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULITURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The FCV tobacco variety CM-12 is recommended for growing in irrigated conditions and light soil areas of East Godavari, West Godavari district and Khammam districts of Andhra Pradesh.

High Pesticide residue of Crops

1694. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of our crops have high pesticide residue;

(b) if so, what Steps are proposed to reduce pesticide residue; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Sir, if the pesticides are used as per Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), ther residues do not persist in food crops.

(b) and (c) The following steps are being taken|proposed to be taken to reduce pesticides residues:—

I. The Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Insecttides Act, 1968 grants registration to an insecticide after satesfying itself on the basis of the comprehensive data on safety to human being, and its efficacy against concerned past without leaving toxic residue in food commodities at harvest.

2. The Resistration Committee while granting a certificate of registration also attach a set of app wed labels and leaflets which contain detais regarding proper use of insecticide like proper doses, time, method of application, type of equipment to be used and interval between the application of pesticide and hardest so that there should be no toxic residues at the time of harvest in food commodities.

3. The Government is implementing Integrated Pest Management Programme for pest control whch inter-alia focusses on adoption of suitable qiltural and mechanical practices, use of botanical and biopesticides, use of b ocontrole agents and judicious use of chemical pesticides based on economic threshold level of pests.

Production of Wheat *in.* Madhya Pradesh

1695. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Madhya Pradesh produces the b:st quality of wheat in the country;

(b) if so, what was the production of wheat in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years. year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a gradual reduction in the production of wheat in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government proposes to take to increase the production of wheat in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Madhya Pradesh is one of the States whish fa producing farm varieties of wheat.

(b) The production of wheat during the last three years in Madhya Pradesh is as follows:—

(in '000 tonnes)

1991-92	5138.0
1992-93	5242.6
1993-94.	6160.5

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(el For increasing the productivity and proluction of wheat in the State, crop oviented production programme viz. Integrated Cereals Development Programme—Wheat is being implemented. Besides, programmes for inreasing the use of fertiliser in low consumption areas and extension of irrigation facilities are being implemented to improve the production of crop.

Development of Agriculture in Madhya Pradesh

1696. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a). the steps taken by Government for sastained development of agriculture on a long term basis in the state of Madhya Pradesh: and

(b) what are the details thereof?